

Serial No.: 10/036,982 Attorney Docket No.: F-423

## EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. ED 164264776 US

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 3600

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:	) Attorney Docket No.: F-423
,	) Customer No.: 00919
William E. Ryan, et al.	)
	) Examiner: Joseph C. Rodriguez
Serial No.: 10/036,982	) Group Art Unit: 3653
Filed: December 31, 2001	)
Confirmation # 5328	) Date: February 3, 2006

Title:

SYSTEM FOR DETECTING THE PRESENCE OF HARMFUL

MATERIALS IN INCOMING MAIL STREAM

## AMENDEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE DECEMBER 5, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents PO BOX 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the December 5, 2005 Final Office Action ("Office Action"). A response is due March 5, 2006 and this initial response is filed before two months after the mailing of the Final Office Action. See MPEP 714.13. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. The Amendments are submitted solely to place the present application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal. Entry of the following amendment and consideration of the enclosed remarks are respectfully requested. The following sections are enclosed:

- 1. Amendments to the claims; and
- 2. Remarks.

(10046141.1 )

2/3/06 Amendment

-1-